

Ross Dowson archives – correspondence – Year 1987

- 01_02 Letter to Keith F., Winnipeg, re: explaining to a student how Kopyto and the LSA plan to put forward and defend their ideas as the Socialist Rights Defence Fund literature shows
- 01_04 Letter to David K., Edmonton, re: how a student interested in the history of Canadian Trotskyism can avail himself of the archives; inviting him to meet to talk over this important subject
- 01_27 Letter to Anne (D.) re: RD busy with American correspondence and Kopyto defence campaign; Harry loses bid as NDP candidate in St. George riding; RD's health problems; on books
- 01_27B Letter to Sarah Lovell, New York, re: how the crisis in the Fourth International destabilized the Canadian section; the role of the Barnes SWP leadership; the Forward Group's – and others' –activities in Canada; Dowson-Kopyto vs. the RCMP
- 02_00 Article in *Left Caucus Newsletter*: "Challenge of the shorter work week;" how the LC shaped NDP policy to end layoffs in conjunction with automatic inflation wage increases
- 03_03 Letter to Rick Salutin, Toronto, re: remembering meeting Jack MacDonald in 1934 on Spadina Avenue
- 03_06 Letter to Abie Weisfeld, Montreal, re: mobilizing the Kopyto defence campaign; a fabulous new Diego Rivera book published
- 03_09 Minutes of Forward Group (RD rec. sec'ty.), Toronto, re: RD on the need to buttress the educational program; motion to firm up comrades' commitment to the movement
- 05_00 (*Undated letter found in May 1987*) to *International Viewpoint*, France, Gerry Foley: recommending to *IV* an article by Ontarian Stan Grey on radical feminism published by *Canadian Dimension*
- 06_11 Notes on a (Montreal) *Gazette* article; "RCMP destabilization of CNTU" (a major Quebec union federation); how the Quebec Court of Appeal successfully derailed the laying of charges against top RCMP officials in break-in and theft of Parti Québécois offices
- 06_15 Minutes of Forward Group (RD recording sec'ty.) re: discussion on Left Caucus priorities

06_23 +Letter to Anne D., Ottawa: RD's move; reviewing the (LC) Newsletter, comments on OFL's politics

07_08 Bulletin to Forward Group members, re: two classes on the Soviet Union today: 1917 & deterioration, and Gorbachev's New Turn

07_31 Letter to Ernest Mandel, Brussels, re: sending leaflet on campaign to rehabilitate Lenin's co-workers; Appeal "Clear the Names of the Accused in the Moscow Trials"; letter appealing for endorsements

08_07 Letter to Michael Loewy, Moscow Trials Campaign, France: important new signatories to appeal to rehabilitate Stalin's victims

08_11 +Minutes Toronto Forward Group: anti-war cttee on anti-NATO/NORAD campaign; activity reports

09_23 Letter to Ernest Mandel, Brussels, re: Canadian names to be added to international list of supporters; no official FI supporters have responded; problems with other supporters

09_99 Two draft resolutions for Fred (Callaghan) for Steel(workers) convention; resolution on a longer limit to resolutions; resolution on plant closures, plants to operate under public ownership

10_05 Minutes of Forward Group (RC rec. sec'ty.), re: on RD's 70 anniversary party; Left Caucus steering committee's plans; the Kopyto case broadened to defence of Codina; Moscow Trials rehabilitation petition campaign

10_08 Letter to the Editor, (Toronto) *Globe & Mail*, re: Gorbachev uses same strategy as Stalin in avoiding the rehabilitation of Trotsky

10_17 Letter to Marilyn Vogt-Downey, *BIDOM*, New York, re: correcting their article stating Trotsky was "tried in absentia"

10_20 Circular letter to "Dear friend," seeking financial contributions for a major newspaper appeal that Gorbachev rehabilitate Trotsky along with Lenin's other co-workers

10_22 Letter in (Toronto) *Globe & Mail* by RD, entitled "Rewriting Soviet history"

10_27 Letter to Ernest (Mandel), Brussels, re: sending him most recent list of Canadian supporters; a play on Trotsky in Canada; the free-trade deal coming to Canada to cap integration with the US

10_27B Letter to producers of a play about Trotsky in Canada

- 10_28 Letter to *International Viewpoint* (journal of the FI) France, re: enclosing a cash donation
- 10_30 Letter to the Editors of *Canadian Dimension*, Winnipeg, re: enclosing latest list of supporters of ‘‘Clear the Names of the Accused in the Moscow Trials’’ (Copies sent to Dimitri Roussopoulos, Editor of *Our Generation*, Montreal and Rick Salutin & the Editors of *This Magazine*)
- 11_05 **Document: ‘‘Statement to the press released to all the services located in Ottawa;’’** RD and Zane Boyd announce an appeal to the Soviet government to rehabilitate all victims of the Moscow Trials; some selected Canadian supporters; the 70th anniversary of the Revolution; a note of support from Vern Olson
- 12_11 Letter to *Bulletin IDOM*, New York, re: a critique of their appraisal of the role of Canadian UAW leader White; split in union is far from weakening autoworkers’ bargaining power as their article claims

Ross Cowson #2311
40 Homewood Ave.,
Toronto, M4Y 2K2
January 2, 1987

Keith Fisher
1012 - 504 Main Street
Royal Tower
Winnipeg, Man

Dear Mr. Fisher

I am happy to hear that you are taking up the defence of Harry Kopyto in a university political science paper. It is most important that the violations of the right of the labor and socialist movement by the RCMP receive as wide publicity as possible so that the disgraceful events of the '70s will have less possibilities of being repeated again.

I am very pleased that Mr Kopyto and my efforts have been successful in mobilizing the support that they have--particularly among the trade unions and in Canada's labor party, the NDP. They, and not the tiny League for Socialist Action, are the real targets of the RCMP ---the idea that we have tried to keep to the forefront from the very beginning ever since we launched the suit in the federal court on December 15, 1977

From the very first we never modified or adjusted my ideas or those of the LSA. We stood by them and took up the challenge to present those ideas in as popular and effective way we knew. There was considerable pressure on us, particularly from "well intentioned" friends to have us repudiate our ideas, to suggest that the RCMP had hit out at us "by mistake." But we have adhered to the statement of purpose outlined in our Socialist Rights Defence Fund statement from day one - which we have asked people to endorse and help finance

That principled stand echoed in Kopyto's statement upon hearing that judgement of the Small Claims Court last December 18, 1986 roused the fury of the Ontario Attorney General to lay charges against Kopyto of "scandalizing the court." Kopyto is appealing the court's ruling that he is guilty. This appeal will be going before the Ontario Supreme Court this coming March 9. We hope to be able to build such pressure that the court that it will rule that Kopyto is not only not guilty but that this concept should be removed from the Criminal Code

In the meantime Kopyto with my and others help will be trying to win him the nomination as the NDP candidate in my provincial riding of St George-St David against the liberal candidate Ian Scott. The nomination battle has been putyoshorely in favor of Kopyto. The appeal in my suit

Continued from page one

I hope that the above information in this letter will prove useful to you-along with other information that I have enclosed.

I would appreciate receiving a copy of your paper, and ideas you may have to widen interest.

sincerely

Ross Dowson

Ross Dowson, #2311
40 Homewood Ave.,
Toronto, M4Y 2K2
January 4, 1987

David A Kales
7705 - 81 Ave.,
Edmonton, Alta T6C 0W4 Alberta

Dear David Kales;

Thanks for your letter of the 11th December;

An offshoot of the Dowson v. RCMP suit- Harry Kopyto's being charged and found guilty of "seaaadaling the court", his appeal and his now seeking the NDP nomination in St Davids-St George which if he wins it would put him in contest with Ian Scott in the coming provincial election has taken up considerable of my time. ...hence my delay in responding.

That is quice "a side interest"-a paper on the history of Canadian Trotskyism from Specto's expulsion from the CP to the late 1970s . I see you were at McMaster. Do you have connections there and is it possible that you maybe in the Hamilton - Toronto area is the near future that would make it possible for us to get together.

Of course the key source of material would be the movements public press. There is a considerable run in the possession of the Toronto reference library just up from Yonge and Bloor--on microfilm. I believe that the library on a request from the U of A Dept of History would make copies of those microfilms available - There are some gaps but but a little pressure from your end mghhh result in their appeoaching me to let them fill in their gaps from my files. There is nothing like getting the library facilities to have thjs material available for research.

There is also some important archival material in the possession of the Ontario Archive on Grosvenor street--just north of College off Bay. The Revolutionary Workers League--the continuing section of the Fourth International sold the government a considerable amount of material. They contacted me but I haven't had the opportunity to go over and peruse it. But I think I would know it well as it was the material that I built up over the years and rather than get into a stupid hassle walked away from it when I let that group. I think that this would be key material and I intend to move in on it.

Itake for granted that you have studied Norman Fenner's The Canadian Left. I wrote a major review of it in Forward which I gather Penner told a forum he considered to be the most valuable review. A bout a year ago Penner contacted me as to whether I would be available for some interviews for another volume but I have heard nothing further from him

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And I would imagine that you are acquainted with Ian Nagus' Canadian Bolsheviks--I am enclosing a copy of an appreciation that I made of it. Forward published a series of articles that I wrote on the movement--On his death I wrote up an appreciation of S. J. Spector as I did on MacDonald and others.

On this whole problem of writing a history of a contemporary radical movement you could do nothing better than to read James P. Cannon's book The First Ten Years of American Communism--composed largely of developed notes that Cannon sent in reply to enquiries from Theodore Draper's the pre-eminent historian of the American Communist Party. I see Bissent only last year had occasion to publish Draper on recent material that has come out on the US CP.

I know that this letter is hardly what you wanted. What you want I have yet to write--a big and serious job. I think it would be most satisfactory if you could arrange to get together with me in the near future---or follow the Draper technique with Cannon. The Cannon book was published in 1962 by Lyle Stuart of New York. I would think that it is available within the library system.

I hope these notes are of some help and looking forward to hearing from you if not actually meeting you shortly.

sincerely

Ross Dowson

I will be appealing the court ruling on my suit very shortly now that the Kopyto off shoot will be making a turn. This suit of course is of critical importance in the history of the Canadian Left.

R. Dowson, #2311
40 Homewood Avenue
Toronto, M4Y 2K2
Jan 27, 1987

Anne D

Dear Naane; (Anne)

Sorry to be so long in taking up your correspondence and sending you the money you advanced for your mothers gift. Tonight I finally made the decision that this was it--but I found a letter in my mail box from Sarah Lovell of the Bulletin in Defence of Marxism. ..by far the most promising of the various groupings that are coalescing out of the splits from the American Socialist Workers Party. She wrote me asking if they could publish portions of a letter that I had sent them a couple of months ago about an article they had printed on Nicaragua. I wanted to reply to her at once so they could put what they wanted in their next issue and to propose to her that if they would like I would write them an article on the Canadian autonomy struggle here in the so-called Internationals and another on the Dowson-Kopyto suits against the RCMP. I am enclosing the latest from the Kopyto Defence efforts. March the 6th is the day. Do you think you could pass the material around to the Meglung Soviet and friends for contributions. The expenses are high and we cannot let Harry carry the whole battle and its expenses to boot. Besides it is good to every once in a while test the political milieu in which you are moving. The Civil Liberties identity is very good and the Amnesty International affront to Ian Scott was terrific I thought.

The contesting for the nomination for NDP candidate for St George St Davids was also quite worthwhile. Harry gave a terrific speech which shook the St Davids people who were well mobilized to see Campsey take the nomination. Everyone was pleased by the contest seeing that it was remarkably free from the traditional back-biting and gossip. Campsey covered all the proper left issues but of course the gay question was right up front. I early approached Campsey to step aside but his line was the gays need representation--this riding is looked upon as a gay "ghetto" and therefore Campsey!--Harry with two wives (female) and two children one male and one female--despite his record as an up front defender of gay rights didn't qualify regardless the fact that at this time it is clear that Ian Scott will be the official government candidate. Of course Harry swinging as usual moved in and pushed everyone else aside. even agreeing if not proposing no questions from the floor. It turns out that he thought that he might come under attack from some gays. It appears that Damien--the first gay right case made a petty public attack on Harry for his "merchandising". The Jockey Club finally made a cash settlement which they said was much smaller than they had originally expected to concede because Damien (Harry) took it public. He told me that he didn't want it to come up on the floor but I insisted that it was probably being gossiped about and he had every interest in smoking it out if so. There were 101 legitimate voters ~~tm~~ at the meeting and probably 250 in attendance as a whole--17 decided not to cast their ballots and Harry got 25 to Campsey's 59. David Middleton came up to me as soon as the results were announced and said in a loud voice to the group that gathers around--"Well Campsey got the nomination but the party lost the election." Right on except for the suggestion that Harry might have won ~~ix~~ the riding if he had been candidate

-2- J. 9/18/81

Vern O and Ernie Tate let it be known that they thought Forward should not have contested the nomination--going along I gather with Gay representation as if it was akin to favoring female candidates in this age of males or Francophone candidates in this age of Anglo-Saxonia in Canada. Ernie came to the nomination meeting and let someone know that he changed his opinion and thought it was all in all a good thing that Harry contested. Of course it was good for our legal hassles to raise Harry's politics publicly not that we have hidden them in anyway. So the processe goes on building Harry as a mass figure

The Left Caucus is having difficulty meeting all the pressures that it do its thing but with a "proper" NDP framework. We have got boxed in by the syndrom that we must have an upfront NDP'er on the platform--this time Harney on Quebec. We are also trying to pick up some one like Mike Lyons from the Labor Council ---but these take incredible maneuverings--Pleased to announce that we will know Friday morning whether it will come off with all the great men. Lois has been involved in all the bull-shit. It is not clear but from garbled reports it would seem that Harney has given in that Quebec would modify its "indepdentist" stance with regards to the key language question. But it looks as if the LC Bulletin is well on the road. I contributed an item on the shorter work week--and also on Koyyto coming before the court on March 9 and the need for funds.

And what NDP riding are you a member of--and what is happening. Are you going to the convention as a delegate. Talking it over with Lois and the comrades I have decided that I am not---I'm 70 this year and that is quite a hassle to cart the LC and literature display around and I could never do that without Lois' car. She cannot go because of Ruth's needs--and the problem of housing now that they have sold Hazel Ridge Drive. They were out looking for a new place now that Lois is the only really functioning person shovelling snow looking after the garden etc. I have just completed all sorts of tests and seen the doctor. They do not really know what is wrong with my right foot and leg. Dr Godfrey told me that there is no vascular problem and when I told him that I was not satisfied with his prescription that I should "keep on doing what I am doing" he said he would switch me over to another doctor who prescribed a sophisticate pain killer which I don't need for I am not in what one could call pain but just less functional--and the pills upon reading about them upset the stomach which for my duodenal ulcer is worse than any pain I am supposed to be suffering. But we are off on another tangent--the doctor thinks we should check out my arch supports and an expert on the human foot which I will be doing. The other doctor who prescribed the pain killer also told my doctor that he thinks it may well be a continuing degeneration of my degenerative disc in my back--nothing to do but maybe to give me a sense of stability I should get a cane--Some style. But I can't do that--I can see people getting up to give me a seat on the street car. It is bad enough that young people call me "Sir".

I see that the Food and Commercial workers have just split on the key question of Canadian autonomy and that the IWA has also established the independent Canadian union. It can only give the Canadian Labour Congress a lift and stir the ranks to become more masters in their own house. While The Canadian leadership differentiates itself from the U on the ~~exacting~~ ground that they are opposed to the rollbacks of their US counterparts they have not got their act together. Their taking up No Free Trade it has only served to take the pressure off them to respond to the massive plant closures and layoffs - the issue of employment, jobs. Bob White's hipsterism around the Michelin certification, the Eaton drive and the bank workers didn't go anywhere. Two bright spots--the opposition to the settlement at Gainors which was considerable and well expressed--and the Scarboro Autoworkers protest against over-time

End (see 03)

Letter to Anne D -3 - Jan 27/87

This next year or so should see a real stir in the ranks of the unions all the more that the economy is slipping into real recession--- Are you ready- Not by a long shot. The minimum is a subscription to International Viewpoint and now it will be well worth while subscribing to the Bulletin in Defense of Marxism published from

Bulletin IDOM

Post Box 1317

New York N.Y. 10009

U.S.A. 6 issues \$15 US. funds

In fact it is even more useful than International Viewpoint as it deals with problems of the struggle on this continent and carries the more important articles from International Viewpoint.

While I appreciate the gesture I don't think you should be sending me books. The fact is that it should be the other way around and it was I who pressed you to buy a book for yourself and a very expensive one at that. Fortunately the Rivera book is ~~an~~ important one and I am glad to hear that you and Jeff enjoyed it. The Bodley Head verse book is very nice-a sort of collectors item--edited by Preistly, dedicated to John Lane. And of course the Ernest Dowson Cynara is as good as the first day I read it--"hungry for the lips of my desire." He always receives mention in anything on the Victorian poets but I have never come across anything extensive about him. Probably we are related to him as there are few persons bearing that name. I would suppose that he is significant enough to have been traced in a country that is so well documented as England. But I have noticed no poets or would-be poets among us

Did you happen to take one of the copies of your mothers very fine portrait taken in 1941. I just reached up for it with the intention of asking you to whom I should send it. I thought there were two but there is now only one so I will if there is no protest keep it.

Of course you will notice that I am not using the electric typewriter. The big table here is loaded with clippings and I have no place to put the typewriter down where there is an outlet. But I am using it. The only real advantage of that typewriter over this is that the touch being automatic is nice and even which is ~~am~~ very good for hunt and peck typists such as myself.

- Are you able to keep in touch with Walter who of us all seems to be entirely on his own. The others seem very well able to look after themselves and in their own way know what they want. Right now I am trying to get a one bedroom apartment in this building as the present facilities are terrible cramped

Ross Dowson, #2311
40 Homewood Ave
Toronto M4Y 2K2
Jan 27, 1987

Attention Sarah Lovell
P.O. Box 1317
New York N.Y., U.S.A.

Dear Sarah;

Thanks for your note of January 21. Yes, by all means you are very welcome to extrapolate material from that letter for publication in the Bulletin. And while we are at it- I am wondering whether you think you could usefully carry a couple of articles that I am prepared to write for the bulletin. There is one article that is crying out to appear in a serious journal of Trotskyism. ...The Dowson suit against the RCMP.

I am this year 70 years old and with my genuine withdrawal from the post of executive secretary of the League for Socialist Action - back in the fall of 1972 I fully intended to pull back from the prominence I played ~~as~~ as executive secretary of the Canadian Trotskyist movement for 28 years. This was not to be. The crisis in the international - Mandel-Maitain's guerrilla strategy hit us like a massive object from outer space and the leadership we had been grooming broke out as if the movement had been a prison. It dumped our orientation of critical support of the mass-labor party formation of the CCF-New Democratic Party and launched a war against the mounting anti-US ~~imperialist~~ sentiment which they smeared as being crude bourgeois, social patriotic, chauvinist nationalism.

When I and a corporal's guard withdrew it was obvious to me that the movement was doomed. A very big factor in this was the Barnes leadership. They carried out a dress-rehearsal of the Canadian section of what they subsequently played out on the SWP. The irony of the situation today is while the forces that could be said to be Trotskyist are in complete disarray and confusion a couple of the comrades in the Forward Group have been able to play an important role, even spectacular, in the mass movement.

in

One of our comrades- Gordon Doctrow the last provincial election as an official candidate of the NDP became the most outspoken opponent to the extension of public funding to Catholic high schools which the NDP leadership supported fully. We have not heard the end of that yet. And I and Harry Kopyto occupy centre stage in the ongoing scandal around the para-military federal police force-the RCMP. I am enclosing some material on the latest off-shoot of this suit--the attempt of the judiciary to bar Kopyto from the courts- now guilty of scandalizing the courts for the mundane observation to a reporter that "the courts are warped in favor of protecting the police." I am enclosing a couple of montages of newspaper clippings around this latter drama.

There is a problem. My comrades and I are not members of the FL-I think at last count there were three maybe four sympathizing sections here - none of which I fear are viable

-2-

Our not being part of them, of any one of them, has made it possible for us to survive even in our present weak condition. We are holding on

The official section has given very modest coverage to the Dowson suit and a very small minded and petty coverage at that. I don't think the Weisleder group has had anything to say being too busy beating the drum in defense of some Armenians who they charged were being framed by the RCMP as "terrorists". I warned Weisleder that all the evidence showed that they ~~obviously~~ had the goods on them and that we were not actually living in a police state here. Since all the Armenians have now confessed Weisleder has not said a word about what was a central cause of the group, played up by Socialist Action. At the last conference of the Ontario New Democratic Party Left Caucus 6 or 7 members of the official section turned up to give us their advice as to how the Caucus should function and passed on. Weisleder continued his gestures that we should build an explicitly Trotskyist formation and was ~~xx~~ crushingly rejected in his election bid

But to get on with the proposition. I am prepared to write an article on the Dowson-Kopyto struggle against the RCMP ---- and another article should you consider publication on the breakaway of the Cdn ~~membership~~ from the so-called internationals in the direction of full Canadian autonomy in the Canadian Labor Congress which is affiliated to the NDP. Perhaps you may have noticed a littler hassle I had over this with Socialist Action about a year ago. The process continues with the IWA and now the Food Workers the next week or so. A major factor now is the internationals support of wage rollback

Would you carry me for a month or so with regards to my sub expiration. I picked up your letter on the way back from having sent some funds to the International Viewpoint

My regards to Frank

with socialist greetings

Ross Dowson

24)

NY - (an mm)

copied for May 12 (1970) on
F.G.

We need a good statement of a general character
on the petty bourgeois character of the 1960-70

Student radicalization

how ~~why~~ it went ultra left

the challenge our small cadre faced and the ominous
problem we can now see in the stagnation of the best
elements in the previous radicalization - lack of cadre - continuity
- and the impact it had on our organization cadre + all
- the ultra left pressure ~~pressure~~ internal + external
from RCT to RME

Left Caucus newsletter

February, 1987
Vol. 2, No. 1



CHALLENGE OF THE SHORTER WORK WEEK

Ross Dowson
St. George

The delegates to the 1985 Ottawa convention turned back the Federal Council's key economic policy resolution on technological change. That resolution failed to even mention the shorter work week as a central means of preventing layoffs and providing jobs. They also voted to amend it in accordance with a Left Caucus referral motion.

In preparing resolutions for this coming Montreal convention, if you looked up F.7.5 (pages 145-6-7) in the Resolutions Reference Book, you would be disappointed at the failure of the amended version to reflect the stimulating convention debate. The clause "shorter work week" is merely inserted in one of the sentences - it is not at all developed or presented as a central means of preventing the layoffs, the shutdowns and massive unemployment that now plagues us.

The true spirit of that debate was taken up by a group of workers at the Scarborough GM plant on January 10. About 1,000 members of CAW Local 303 - a complete shift at the Eglinton Ave. plant were laid off last fall. Yet the company has asked those kept on to not only work their regular shift but to work overtime on Saturdays. Their information picket protested that the laid off shift be brought back; that the government make compulsory overtime illegal, etc. The chairman of the Local told the press he "couldn't work overtime while others were on the streets."

continued on page 2

Another is that everyone should benefit from the introduction of technological advances - not just those who happen to own the means of production. The concept of a sliding scale - a sliding scale of wages, also known as an escalator clause and a cost of living bonus, which protects the basic wage with periodic and automatic increases, was established during the rampant inflation of the forties, fifties and into the sixties by major unions on the American continent and across Europe. In recognition of the miserliness of the Old Age Security payments to pensioners, Ottawa felt obliged to concede periodic increases determined by the cost of living index. When the Mulroney government talked of de-indexing the Old Age Supplement a couple of years ago the storm of protest drove it back.

The shorter work week, aside from its immediate urgency and benefits, has another merit. It links the immediate struggle to our objective of establishing a new type of society - a socialist democracy where not just the conditions of work but the very nature of work itself and all its rewards will be determined by ourselves by planning production not for profits but for the use of all.

(Handwritten letter)

Rick Salutin, Toronto

March 3/87

I happened to have belatedly come across your picture book on Spadina Ave a few days ago. I missed #320 above Switzers. Back about 1934 I made my acquaintance with ("Moscow") Jack MacDonald there. That was the headquarters of the Workers Party which he had launched with the other big founder of the CP – Maurice Spector. Back of the headquarters (2nd floor) was the print shop of the Ukrainian Workers News (Robitnitchi Visti) edited by CP Ukrainians (like) Bill Bosevitch who joined them.

These were totally different types who are now sentimentalized by some who actually became the instruments of the Stalinization of the early CP – Buck, Salsberg etc.

Thought you might like to see the efforts of the Ont NDP.

Socialist greetings,

Ross Dowson

40 Homewood Ave., #2311
Toronto, M4Y 2K2
March 6, 1987

Abie Weisfeld
68 Duluth St
Montreal Quebec
H2W 1G8

Dear Abie;

How?

Sorry to be so long in taking up your nice note. Laughable as it seems I manage to have a little time here waiting for someone else to act. ... namely Joyce Rosenthal to type up a good copy of some material that I want to get printed to distribute to a meeting here to be addressed by Ed Asner (La Grant) tonight at Convocation Hall. The left overs we can put to good use at Saturday's International Women's Day demo. I want to get some publicity and some money for the Kopyto Defence.

Harry is down in Kingston on some case. Am I glad he happened to phone me the other day. He told me that he was not coming in for the appeal court hearing on Monday at Osgoode Hall. This astonishing idea that Roach and Angi Codina--his lawyers-- can handle it and it is not customary for defendants to appear at their own appeal caused me to get things in gear. I told him that that he needs press and over the last few years he is the guy who can get it. So we are telling people where the appeal court is being held hopefully that a few people will turn up for the show. We have the court for two days. Angie is really preparing herself after her jaunt to Hong Kong or was it Singapore looking after clients who are rich enough to buy their way into Canada. I am sure Ottawa will find that we have room and to spare for them in the face of the flood of "neverdowells" from Salvador and elsewhere. This situation is whipping up quite a scandal eh-- bearing all kinds of evil thought that we pretend do not exist in the Canadian closet.

Glad to hear that you have managed to get the gallery and bookstore into operation and of the efforts of you and your companions baby to get a few words into the conversation. Re that Gallery you might well be interested in checking out on a sensational art book that has been recently been published- Diego Rivera-a retrospective. published on behalf of the Founders Society Detroit Institute of Arts in association with the well-established publisher W.W. Norton and Company of New York. It is a book worthy of Rivera who can now be obvious to everyone interested in Art and Revolution is by far the greatest artist of this whole period. Unfortunately it sells for \$70 but it is well worth every penny and much more. I showed my copy to Anne Dowson who immediately went out to buy Ed Mirvish's last copy. She wrote me an ecstatic letter of appreciation --I felt like I was the creative master Rivera himself. It is a book that is not only beautiful and illustrative of every facet of his work but a work of scholarship with chapters on his concept of Proletarian Art, his concept of history, the intergration of his art with Mexican native culture, his impact on other radical artists of the thirties and now beyond. I see that they have also prepared a 35 minute film as a fourth section of the exhibition on Diego Rivera-a retrospective which is available on VHS and Betta video Cassette formats -as they say-for home library and school use but as I ad for the Gallery Fokus-send \$20 US for either format. You could recoup this and much more by having some shows in the gallery and the gallery will truly make a splendid contribution to the development of a meaningful art in the Montreal area at least. Dont put this idea aside--but act on it Abie.

I must tear away to get after this busy weekend- I am not inclined to speak but appreciate your thinking of me in this respect.

for beyond resistance--to socialism

Ross

Meeting of the Toronto Forward Group March 9, 1987 (P.D. Rec. Sect 4.)
Chairperson-- Bill

Dowson requested permission to open up meeting. He reported that he had been discussing with several comrades over the past few weeks what he considered to be a continuing deterioration of the group-- attendance increasingly erratic, meetings having to go ahead without what could be considered a working quorum, comrades increasingly failing to carry out their educational assignments so that the educational program of the group has fallen to largely extemporaneous discussions and in effect collapsed. He felt that it was time that the group had a frank discussion as to whether we could continue on as an effective group with a perspective of making a serious contribution to the building of a revolutionary vanguard in Canada, Is the Forward Group viable? With that the floor was opened to discussion

Following and extended discussion in which everyone participated the following motion was adopted unanimously:

1) We affirm the essentiality of the Forward Group and that we will make every effort to sustain it and extend its forces and effectiveness as a socialist vanguard formation- agreed unanimously

2) that we establish its Marxist educational activity as primary for the next period- moved by David -agreed unanimously. Gordon moved a

series of propositions among them; (1) we formalize the payment of monthly dues, (2) regular attendance be understood a primary obligation of membership, (3) all comrades take out an airmail subscription to the International Viewpoint--published by the United Secretariat of the Fourth International and the necessary funds, approximately \$65 Cdn be advanced immediately until comrades financially strapped can re-pay the treasurer (4) that the meeting agenda be restructured--making the educational central and extended, that the NDP report with emphasis on the Left Caucus be presented as a strategic political report, that (5) the educationals be prepared and presented by the comrades on a rotating basis (6) that we hold classes and social activities to which contacts and friends can be invited & so speed up the growth of the Group (7) that we elect a modest number of officers to administer the branch (secretary, treasurer etc) at the next meeting agreed.

Motion that the next branch meeting be March 24 and that the NDP federal convention report be central

meeting adjourned at 10:40

Ross Dowson, #2311
40 Homewood Ave
Toronto, M4Y 2K2

International Viewpoint
2 Rue Richard Lenoir
93108, Montreal
France

attention Gerry Foley

Dear Comrades;

In reading over a recent issue I noted your excellent article on women and the Nicaraguan revolution and that Cahiers du Feminisme published by the French comrades is enjoying some success

I had occasion to remind myself of the excellent article that appeared in Canadian Dimension a few years back by Stan Gray. Perhaps you had occasion to meet him when he was in England, as a student. During the stirring Quebec days he was noted as the student leader for a Francophone McGill University in Montreal. He is now a very effective leader of a movement centered around Hamilton struggling for worker safety on the job. When he was in England Ernie Tate tells me he was very close to us. This article has many merits even though I am late getting it to you--and is notable for its sensitivity to radical feminism and the insight it gives on the role on Stalinism in the labor movement.

I have promoted it and that is why it was again brought to my attention. I think that it would be well worthwhile translating it into French and running it serially in Cahiers--or even IV

I am sure that the editors of Canadian Dimension would give you permission to reprint. There is no purpose in my involving myself--all the more so that their latest issue has a rotten major article on our Comrade Harry Kopyto who as you possibly know is the lawyer for my 7-8 year long suit against the federal police here--the RCMP

Would you give some consideration as to its use and certainly pass it along to the French comrades

otskyist greetings

with Treos

Ross Dowson

The Dowson suit appeal comes before the Supreme Court July 3 *

(Transcribed from notes on a June 11/87 Gazette (Montreal) article)

After frantically trying to block Quebec's attorney general's laying of charges against 17 top RCMP officials...

The Quebec Court d'Appel (Court of Appeal) has upheld a ruling which ordered a permanent stay of proceedings...

All legal proceedings against (them) were permanently stayed by the Quebec Court of Appeal. RCMP Inspector Claude Vermette one of the 10 RCMP top officers in charge of the infamous 1973 illegal break-in and entry of the computer office & the theft of the Parti Québécois membership list have been ...

Last month (July) (...) The Quebec Court of Appeal upheld a ruling which ordered a permanent stay of proceeding against RCMP Inspector Claude Vermette. Vermette was one of the ...

The stay of proceeding against the Inspector who at no time denied his involvement in the Operation Break-in & theft was granted on the grounds that (while) 2 of the 5 judges considered he could still receive a fair jury trial, the other 3 (...) did not. Premier Lévesque's response to (the) provocative evidence of witness Staff Sgt Robert Potvin (in their view?) forever prevented Vermette from receiving a fair trial.

Thurs. June 11/87: Gazette, Montreal: "SQS-RCMP destabilization of CNTU" (*SQ: Sûreté de Québec = RCMP in Québec*) (*Confederation of National Trade Unions, better known as the CSN – Conseil des Syndicats nationaux –ed.*)

CNTU: 23,000 members in Quebec

Pres. Gerald Larose said to the press that the offices have been paralyzed by bomb threats – the result of a systematic campaign by le Sûreté du Québec to "poison public opinion" against the Confederation of National Trade Unions" – "We've been getting bomb threats from early morning until late at night," CNTU secretary general Michel Gauthier said at a news conference yesterday. The conference was called to protest against police raids Tuesday on the CNTU offices in Quebec City and Montreal in which police seized 8 boxes of expense accounts and financial documents – the protest drew the condemnation of the opposition Parti Québécois which charged that the government has lost control of the provincial police – the raids were in connection with police investigations into the bombing last month of a hotel restaurant in Chicoutimi and an alleged conspiracy to bomb hotels owned by Raymond Malenfant in Drummondville, Montreal and Pointe au Pic – linked to an 18 months dispute at Manor Richelieu.

Three men – all CNTU employees have been charged in connection with alleged conspiracy and one refused bail on Tuesday. Arsène Henry, Gérard Theriault & Guy Boisvert (and Larose?) maintained (their) charge that Marc Boivin, a CNTU employee

arrested at the same time but not charged is a police informer who infiltrated the union federation – Boivin a 12-year veteran of the federation remains in custody – police deny he was on their payroll.

Last October Larose accused police of trailing (?) a union supporter Gaston Harvey, and according to PQ leader, Marc Johnson the solicitor general was given no warning of Tuesday's raids on union offices.

Larose suggested that the dynamite found at the home of union official Arsene Henry was planted by police. Le Journal de Montréal reported June 10 that a long-time informer for the CSIS Boivin has been a CNTU organizer in Quebec City for about 12 years. Last Thurs. police concluded 15 raids, found 15 sticks of dynamite and an unregistered Luger.

June 12/87

6 new charges were laid against 2 union officials already accused of bombing a Chicoutimi hotel – Theriault & Henry both officers of the CNTU allege bomb plots in Drummondville, Montreal and a Quebec City suburb Ste-Foy. CNTU official Guy Boisvert accused of advising Marc Boivin to blow up Manoir Richelieu.

Spy agency has Masons in key jobs – review funds.

In a letter to the House of Commons Official Languages Cttee. 15 francophone agents charged that the CSIS harbour “a ferocious opposition to the French fact.”

The review committee's study says: “Early in our inquiry we were given a clear impression that there is a network of freemasons within the CSIS, particularly in the upper echelons and in certain crucial sectors like personnel services.” There is a 60-page report based on investigations by Quebec City lawyer Pierre Gagnon making 48 recommendations. Official Languages Commissioner D'Iberville Fortier has endorsed the report of the committee – a body of 5 Canadians who keep check on CSIS on behalf of parliament and the public – last year intelligence received 1,872 complaints from Francophones about English-only communications.

2 Boivin brothers Richard and Marc are named co-conspirators – neither have been charged – 3 others have been charged. Guy Boivin will appear on court July 9th accused of counselling Marc to cause an explosion at Manoir Richelieu.

On Tuesday night CBC reported Marc Boivin (is) a full-time secret agent – has been in police custody a week and accused by CNTU of being a police for 12 years – first with RCMP, later the CSIS agent. The CBC French network and other incidents 15 years ago. The CBC said also on Friday that the Sûreté was investigating vandalism during the 1981 strike by CNTU-affiliated unionists... “This gives us more reason to think that this is an operation to discredit Gauthier, CNTU secretary-general.”

Minutes Toronto Forward Group Monday June 15, 1987 (R.D. Rec. Secty.)

Darling in the chair

Minutes of previous meeting not available due to absence of secretary

Elected temporary secretary for this meeting- Dowson

Attendance - D [redacted], Dowson, Kopyto, Doctorow, T [redacted] Godina-

Kasher out of town, Jeff unknown, Clinton working

Educational--new material arrived on Palestine-T [redacted] proposed his education

- nal on this theme be postponed to next meeting--agreed

Motion that next Toronto educational be on Co-ops that the trade union leadership is now popularizing as an answer to plant closures and de-industrialization. Ross volunteered to present it

Discussion on proposed classes- suggestion that it be on the USSR-a committee of Gord, Harry and Bill will be meeting to present a recommendation to next meeting

Left Caucus-- discussion preliminary to the coming meeting of the Steering committee on future LC forums and future publication of the Newsletter. General agreement that we reconsider the effort and periodicity of Forums and we put more effort into the circulation of the Newsletter. Decision to circulate the latest issue to Hamilton provincial council meeting and to the Coalition Against Free Trade rally at Queens Park on June 28 and that serious attempts be made to get other than Forward comrades involved Agreed that we raise discussion on the NDP parliamentary caucus response to the Ottawa governments going along with the increased militarization of Canada

Next meeting be Thursday July 2 and that at that meeting we attempt to arrive at a regular meeting night for the summer that will take into account the long holiday weekends on Mondays

meeting adjourned

Ross Dowson
44 Homewood Ave., #1809
Toronto, M4Y 2K2

June 23, 1987

Anne D
152 Concord Street S
Ottawa, Ont.
K1S 0Z4
Ottawa,

Dear Anne;

My unaccustomed brevity along with this inexcusable tardiness is due almost entirely to having to respond to various pressures. I am now once and for all settling the living question. When I get the new bookcases finished in apartment 1809 I will at last be able to finish with apartment 2311---that is unless we still have problems of selling it and have to rent it. Of course Lois has bigger problems still trying to fit their various possessions into their posh new apartment. While Lois and Joyce went on up to Ottawa last weekend for an OWW meeting I stopped off at the camp to see another aspect of the moving. Lois' cabin is filled to the roof with other overflow.

Glad you liked the Newsletter. The day I was working on the layout with Gord he commented with pleasure that putting it out was just like old times with Forward-Labor Challenge. Diane took it to the Hamilton provincial council meeting but I haven't heard how it was received--I laid out on one sheet the article of the Ontario NDP calling for it to go left. All the comments have been good so far aside from Dorise (Netzel's woman friend) 'comment to Lois. She characterized the appeal to Gorbachev to rehabilitate the victims of the Moscow trials as "anti-Soviet" to which Lois responded just like Gorbachev's admissions now appearing in the daily press, eh? I wonder how the CPers are managing to cope with Gorbachev's revelations. A Tribune columnist stations in Moscow wrote how all this requires an honest investigation of the past-rehabilitations etc etc. but he didn't say anything about how the Canadian CP should have to investigate its past where it is aped everything that Stalin and company did and said here among its own members

Lois and Joyce didn't have time to get around to see you and Jeff but they brought back an interesting document prepared by one of their hacks which treats of the Mulroney government as if they were neo-Conservative fascists - and calls for Canadian coalition politics in the style of popular frontism--you wouldn't know that organized labor here calls for an NDP government, period. Lois and Joyce will probably write a reply which will end that whole experience on a high political level

I sent your cheque along to N along with a \$5 donation from someone who picked up a copy from somewhere. He will be pleased. I particularly wanted to put out that last issue so that we could establish a style for future issues. Following the Left Caucus meeting on closure the OFL called a \$90 a person all day conference. They are so leary of public ownership that that are now going gung-ho for worker

buy outs of closed down shops and the formations of co-ops--in this period of corporate amalgamations and takeovers and of course privatizations. A proposal that we should indulge in a sort of do-it-yourself socialisation. Possibly we will take that up in the next Newsletter.

I suppose Harry told you my appeal comes up on July 3rd--and of course there are the moves against both Harry and Angie--not to mention that revelations about the RCMP-CSIS plant in the ~~XXXXXX~~ CNTU leadership. If something is done this fall in Ottawa it would be good to make it joint with government worker who was given the works for his unwillingness to inform on others the RCMP was ~~interested~~ interested in.

Pounmaker was looking particularly green and rich last weekend with the well supplying us with better than Perrier water. I thought that some of you might have been up. But we will be arranging some weekends shortly. I understand that a committee met last night to prepare a class series.

This onion skin note allows me to include an extra copy of the Newsletter which you might like to get copies made from for some kind of circulation in your Ottawa circle.

all the best

Ross

You are invited to participate in a relaxed but stimulating discussion. It will take place at Art Gray's apartment - #912 - 40 Homewood - which runs north from Carlton (Allan Gardens) the first street east of Jarvis. The topic is the Soviet Union - the most controversial question confronting socialists since the 1917 Bolshevik Seizure of Power

We have divided it into 2 classes being held within one week of each other. The first will be led off by Gordon Doctorow on July 22 at 8 p.m. and will zero in on the 1917 Revolution and its Deformation. The second by Harry Kopyto on July 29, one week later, same time and place, will deal with Gorbachev's New Turn - its promises and its limits.

We hope to see you there, hear your view and share refreshments with you. Bring a friend.

For further information phone Ross at 961-4554.

R. Lowson, #1309
40 Homewood Ave
Toronto, M4Y2K2
July 31, 1987

Ernest Mandel
Jos. Impenstraat 127
1030 Brussels, Belgium

Dear Ernest

Thanks for the opportunity to involve ourselves in the effort to re-establish Lenin's Co-workers. I am enclosing a copy of the appeal that we have just issued. I hope that our selection from the lists that have already been gained is a judicious one. Is that our late comrade Sam Gordon's wife who is now listed as an M.P.? The 5 Canadians are the best known we could get at this time to get the show on the road. John Boyd is a former editor of the CP press who broke on Czech invasion, Penner now a prominent academic who broke from CP on same question, a historian, and Salutin perhaps the best known radical commentator --- in a couple of days we will have the top radical NDP M.P. (the parliament is adjourned and it is hard to contact people) The issue doesn't take us into the union movement but into CP dissidents but we will work both--but the initiative list is good. Boyd thinks we should take it to the USSR-Ottawa Embassy on Nov 7. This would seem to be an opportunity for French C.P. dissidents.

All the best

Ross

This statement is being circulated for additional signatures in Britain by the Moscow Trials Campaign, 46 Princes Way, London SW 19. We are publishing it here for the information of our readers. The committee is also seeking financial support.

CLEAR THE NAMES OF THE ACCUSED IN THE MOSCOW TRIALS

IT IS now over fifty years since the infamous Moscow Show Trials. It is astounding that at a time when the Soviet government is at pains to emphasise its concern with 'human rights' and proclaims the need for 'glasnost' — 'openness' — the accused in these trials, with a few exceptions, are still considered guilty of being paid agents of Nazism, and other crimes.

Among these men were numbered several who played outstanding roles in the Russian Revolution of 1917. The reputations of founders of the Soviet state like Zinoviev, Radek, Trotsky and Bukharin were besmirched or expunged from the history books. Today, no-one doubts that the 'confessions' at the trials — the sole basis for the prosecution — were utterly false. Seven defendants in the third trial, Krestinsky and others, have been both judicially rehabilitated and politically exonerated. So have the military leaders, Tukhachevsky and others, whose military trial in 1937, was held in secret. But the admittedly false evidence against these men was inseparable from the charges against all the other accused.

None of the accused, of course, is alive today. Many were executed immediately after their trials. Others died in prison or camps. Leon Trotsky, the chief accused in all three of the trials, was murdered in exile in 1940. However, families of some of the defendants are still living in the Soviet Union. Some had also suffered imprisonment and exile. It is worth recalling that a review of all these cases was promised by Khrushchev, but this promise was broken.

We the undersigned therefore call on the Soviet government to re-examine the cases against all these victims of the perversion of Soviet justice, as took place with Krestinsky. We are confident that all those accused in the Trials of 1936-1938 will be shown to have been innocent. They should immediately be rehabilitated, their honour restored, their families compensated and their graves marked.

Tariq Ali
Sydney Bidwell, MP
Paul Boateng
Sam Bornstein
Fenner Brockway
Raymond Challinor
Jeremy Corbyn, MP
Terry Davis, MP
Meghnad Desai
Tamara Deutscher
Linda Douglas
Peter Fryer
Mildred Gordon
Reg Groves
Eric Heffer, MP

Tom Kemp
Walter Kendall
George Krasso
Eddie Loyden, MP
Oliver MacDonald
Ian Mikardo, MP
Stan Newens, MEP
Brian Pearce
Felix Pirani
Al Richardson
Frank Ridley
Cyril Smith
Harry Wicks
David Winnick, MP
Charlie van Gelderen

Dear friend:

Enclosed is an appeal which I think is self-explanatory. I would appreciate your signifying your support so that I can acquaint its initiators of your solidarity.

I reproduce the final paragraph for your signatures.

We the undersigned therefore call on the Soviet government to re-examine the cases against all these victims of the perversion of Soviet justice, as took place with Krestinsky. We are confident that all those accused in the Trials of 1936-1938 will be shown to have been innocent. They should immediately be rehabilitated, their honour restored, their families compensated and their graves marked.

PRINT

Signed _____

Please forward it to my Toronto address:

Ross Dowson
#1809
40 Homewood Avenue
Toronto, Ontario
M4Y 2K2

Ross Dowson, #1309
40 Homewood Ave
Toronto M4Y 2K2

August 7, 1987

Moscow Trials Campaign
c/o Michael Loewy
84 rue des Lyonnais
75005, France

34?
Dear Comrade;

I recently wrote comrade Mandel about what I and ~~my associates~~ ^{we} are doing with regards to campaign. I am enclosing with this note a copy of the appeal with the list of Canadian initiators--with ~~two~~ recent ~~additions~~ ^{additions} inked in. Cy Gonick is an important prestigious addition having been founder of the widely circulate socialist journal Canadian Dimension, professor and economist. Birchard is not known to me but is probably a former leading Stalinist--his name was supplied to us by John Boyd, a former editor of the CP paper who resigned over the Czech invasion.

Gonick pointed to an obvious problem--where ~~were~~ the Americans--why only Chomsky? I have dropped a note to Barry Weisleder of the Alliance for Socialist Action and to the Revolutionary Workers Party for the name of a prominent associate but haven't heard from ~~the~~ either of them ~~yet~~. But this coming Monday may well give us a break-through upon which we can build

I will write you on the 11th airmail

comradely

Ross Dowson

HofC now in session

Attendance--Ross, Gord, Angie Harry
Minutes postponed due to absence of secretary
Membership and contacts- The two class series on Recent developments in USSR were very successful--as was the third class given by Harry although no notice was sent out. Gray's room turned out to be too small, atmosphere as good-Kopyto and Doctorow presentation

Minutes Aug 11/87

Attendance Bill Asentt Kashet David NDyer Jeff-

Minutes - deferred
Membership & contacts
Class - Space

How we should have profited by class / the Forward Group
- Education - ~~Basic~~ class
- education -

Defence Policy

NATO-NORAD -
assumed policy -
opening into -
Contadora - Latin America
Crisis in US -
disavowed neutrality - anti American

5 persons offered
increased arms
Svend & Jewell P

- Anti war committee - where can it go -
- Re build up conventional -
- Form up the policy -

Edith - ~~Theresa~~ - Where the 4th intl is the day - H.
Ask John Glenn - to go FI Tendency Conference
Next meet 25th of August - Update on Free Trade
Nominations - Ross -

Steve Shorter - York Mills new -
Rebel - leading having diff to get candidates - not averse to left
Orinole
Oakwood - Harry Angie
Markham -
Ross - St George St Davids
RCMP -

RD reported - Moscow -

5 months passed on HK is appeal
civil suit against fed govt - Aug 24 heard and sent
criminal charges - 5 years in prison

Law society issued 5 charges against HK 9th Sept - Angus set for
facing suspension for 3 months
Tues Aug 25th Next Branch

Ross Dowson, #2809
40 Homewood Ave.,
Toronto, M4Y 2K2
September 23, 1987

Ernest Mandel
Jos. Impensstraat 127
1030 Brussels

Dear Ernest;

In reply to your comments of August 15th

I think you should use these names as coming from Canada in any international list of supporters of the appeal; I have numbered them for convenience;

Number 3--John Boyd was the editor of the CP weekly Canadian Tribune from 1960-67 and was Cdn CP representative at the Prague office of the World Marxist Review. He broke about the same time as did Norman Penner N #6 who was leading spokesperson of the Young Communist League when I first came around the movement and who after he broke from the CP has become an eminent historian. His book The Canadian Left is a work of genuine scholarship and is being supplemented a few months from now by Canadian Communism-The Stalin Years and Beyond. I will be evaluating this book shortly--he is the father of Steve Penner of the RWP --before my time- he became a leading person but I no longer hear of him here

terrible
cancer

Levitt's cartoon
TO THE HEAD OF THE...
Robinson(21) was top advisor to the United Electoral workers union--
broke from this CP milieu and has run as an NDP candidate--he writes the
economic materials for Canadian Forum. Roussopoulos is editor of Our
~~Generation~~ Generation, an internationally known anti-war activist and
anarchist. Salutin has become a leading left journalist through This
Generation and now I see Canadian Dimension. Jesse Vorst(25) is the
key person in the academic Society for Socialist Studies. Whitaker (26) is
a well established left academic along with Hunnius whose specialty is
Workers Control (27) and Praxis. Clayton Ruby is one of the most highly
respected lawyers in the country, (28) he wrote the intro to Dowson v
the RCMP, freindly with Kopyto. McNally is by far the leading personality
in the International Socialists(29) who should be on the international
list but brings with him a problem--none of the officially identified
Trotskyists have responded to the appeal although I formally contacted
Weisleder and the RWL. Since I raised this matter to your attention
before about which you made no comment perhaps you spoke to Weisleder
who I understand from one of his comrades has been attending a European
cadre school

So I would say that the following should be on the international list
if there is space--(2) (3) (5) (6) (7) (8) 9(10), (11) Vernel Olson who (14)
played a truly remarkable role in the whole Fair Play for Cuba episode,
~~12~~(15) (16) (18) (20) (21) (22) (23) (25) 27 -28-29 all told 21-
probably too many for non-strategic Canada. I leave it in your hands
which is the reason for my detailed note. Of course we will be getting
more but I think right now it is quite impressive particularly when you
consider the sorry state of Trotskyists right now. I am now feeling some
of them out with a proposition we seek contributions so we could put and
ad in a nationally circulate daily for Nov 7 with the appeal and selected
names--and bring it to a climax by going down to Ottawa and presenting
it to the Soviet Ambassador there at their Nov 7 reception. I see Frisco
Socialist Action is taking it up. I sent them one of our early mailings.
which they mention in their article. My sister and her husband ~~were~~
along with Genora Dollinger with whom they correspond were at first impress-
ed and enthusiastic about the appeal but ~~then~~ then suddenly decided that
it was not supportive enough of the Gorbachov forces and withdrew their
names. At the other extreme are persons around the Trotskyist League
who through a Bryan Palmer damned the appeal for not calling for the
political revolution in the USSR--and then there is the SWP's silence.

I have included information on the various signers for your and other
comrades information. I do not think that we can now start to expand
who they are--that Boyd was editor of the Tribune etc. that could
mentioned in a covering letter. if we thought it necessary.

I am glad to hear that Mildred was our late Sam's wife
guards when you next see her. Ernie and Jesse come +
which we invite them. Ernie has not been active in
the word since he returned from Europe. I would
the London and Paris committees have a copy c
do me the favor of sending me the address and
paper

Levitt's cartoon
with social

Ross Dows

C-3-F6 - Misc
1987

before coming before the convention must ~~be~~ ^{no} longer than 150 words.

in many circumstances the ~~attached~~ ^{limit} 150 word ~~is~~ is altogether too restrictive,

whereas to grasp the importance of the resolution itself.

Therefore be it resolved that the limited by raised to 350 words.

Resolution---1

Whereas plant closures are continuing to take place ^{plaguing} ~~effecting~~ over wider layers of workers both young and old, male and female; ^{due} on the one hand due to an increased application of new and more productive technology and the consolidation of productive plants on a continental and international scale throwing thousands ^{to} on the unemployed scrap heap, and on the other hand ^{bankruptcies} due to the failure of their owners to allocate sufficient funds to refurbish their plants allowing them to become outmoded and inefficient, often squandering loans wrung out of different ⁿ levels of government to pay increased profits to their administrators and owners

And whereas should Washington and Ottawa ^{adhere to} ~~realize~~ what they call "free trade", this process will be vastly escalated largely at the expense of Canadian component of the North American working class

^{without an effective response to} and whereas increased severance pay settlements or the lowering of the age of retirement ^(absolutely) ~~do~~ nothing to ^{labor response} ~~slowdown~~ ^{or even slow down} halt this process or substantially ^{alleviate} ~~lessen~~ the plight of its immediate victims not to speak of the youth who are facing an ever increasing shortage of job openings and less and less opportunity to develop necessary job skills,

and whereas ^{the} ~~they~~ advocated early warning systems designed to permit a search for new owners tend mainly to only ^{delay} the process ^{of} ~~then~~ resulting on the dispersion ^{of} for the only force that could effectively

1
resolution---2

resist this process,

and Whereas the heralded solution of "workers ownership" is either ~~no~~

blocked from the start by financial interests such as the Royal Bank

at the Hamilton Canadian Processal operation, or frustrated and defeated

at the UAW encouraged Employee Stock Ownership Plan at New Jersey Hyatt-

~~Clark~~ Clark Industries by outmoded machinery, organized business compet-

ition, cancellation by GM of its bearing contract, ^{bureaucratic} insensitive manage-

ment and bank lenders who the ^(union) shop chairman charged don't listen to the

people and alienate the workers

Therefore be it resolved that the Ontario Federation of Labour increase

its efforts to mobilize its forces and the working people of all

Canada to realize a political solution to this critical problem by

electing NDP governments in the provinces and in Ottawa that would im-

plement a program of selective public ownership, financed by public funds

under the control of the workers on the job elected to administrative

boards composed of their representatives, economists, planners and the

most knowledgeable and skilled ^{technicians} ~~technocrats~~ in related disciplines.

Minutes of previous meeting postponed until the coming next meeting as secretary absent and did not make them available

Membership and contacts- Report and discussion on the party held in honour of Ross Dwoson on his 70th birthday, in recreation room at Islington and Dundas apartment. Very successful with over sixty persons in attendance. . The program came off very well particularly thanks to the efforts of Lois, Vic and Marie Hagg. A good time was had by all and the social was successful socially and politically in that it established the political continuity of Trotskyism. Art and Sandy Jaszzyk as did Manfred Netzel sent greeting and expressed regrets unable to attend. The program thanks to the broad participation of several generations of comrades and its record on video should prove to be of future value. Ross was presented with a gift of a VCR

Toronto NDP-- The Left Caucus Steering Committee met and had a fruitful discussion on future plans even though several comrades were not there, including David and Harry--the London comrades unable to make it. Plans outlined to hold annual convention and election of officers on Saturday Jan 23rd 1988. A forum will be held on November 4th on the subject of the September Ontario elections, the end of the Liberal NDP parliamentary accord, Ray's failure to respond to questions about whether he was a socialist and notable municipal by-elections campaign in Ward 7 and 5. He should be able to effectively build this forum with an assortment of prominent speakers involved in the controversies. Preparations underway to put out a new issue of the Left Caucus Newsletter. deadline has been set for November. Motion by Ross that the branch approve of his declaration that we will not work in the Ward 7 campaign on the basis the riding voted to not run under the label in the municipal by-elections--that we consider it a matter of principle--agreed unan. Notice that our comrades who are delegates to the Provincial council be prepared to speak on the parliamentary caucus' white paper on defence, on free trade, and on Morgentaler case

Kopyto- The judge struck out Kopyto's action against police infiltration of his office. but expressed his intention of reflecting on it. Both Angie and Harry are being summoned before the law society. very short Society is trying to backmail Angie for her relations with Harry who they are trying to drive out of the profession. Roach has appeared on behalf of Harry in a pre-trial conference. Still no report on Kopyto's appeal of his being found guilty of contempt of court for the 'crazy glue' statement on the Dowson sentencing

A meeting is being called to organize forces to go public in defence of Kopyto and Codina for Thursday October 15th...the meeting will discuss raising funds putting out a leaflet, etc

Moscow Trials rehabilitation petition campaign well underway--we now have about 30 persons supporting the international campaign. Ross sending G&M a letter dealing with Observer article and the technicality being used by Gorbachev to not rehabilitate Trotsky. Planning to send out an appeal for funds to cover cost of reproducing the international petition on rehabilitation of Stalin's frameup victims. Zane talking of preparing to go with him to present appeal to Russian ambassador in Ottawa. Discussion on Toronto public school teachers strike. Public getting to understand importance of preparation time demand. This is an important first strike experience. Ont Parliamentary caucus not clearly identifying with teachers. Decision to urge our teacher contacts to put heat on parliamentarians. Next meeting October 19 1987

on Nov 7x

Barly

Ross Dowson
40 Homewood Avenue, #1809
Toronto, Ontario
M4Y 2K2

October 8, 1987

Letters to the Editor
The Globe and Mail

Dear Editor:

In Gorbachev turns back clock to overrule Stalin (Oct. 5), London Observer correspondent Andrew Wilson Reports that crowning next month's huge anniversary celebrations of the Russian Revolution will be the rehabilitation of Nikolai Bukharin and the other leaders of the revolution who Stalin framed and executed in the 1930s for alleged anti-Soviet conspiracy.

"So momentous is the move in terms of ideology," writes Wilson, "that even the leadership could not undertake it unilaterally." Nor, it seems, will Gorbachev risk having the matter dealt with through the Supreme Soviet. That would throw open to scrutiny and debate not just the trials and sentences themselves, but the actual records and views of the accused, and the origins and record of the entire Stalin period. Instead, the Soviet leader will expedite the matter through a simple Supreme Court fiat.

As Wilson points out, this "convenient technicality" allows Gorbachev to leave out "the most controversial of all revolutionary figures -- Leon Trotsky" who, while alleged to have master-minded the entire alleged plot, had already been exiled and was therefore never charged nor found guilty by any court.

Stalin himself used a similar technicality in the 1930s when he demanded that the Norwegian government, which had granted Trotsky asylum, order his deportation -- but not his extradition. The Norwegian extradition law required that the legitimacy of any accusations be examined by a Norwegian court before extradition could be granted. This is precisely the opportunity Trotsky wanted -- the same demand he made to appear before a Soviet court, for which he pledged his life if found guilty.

The technicality which would today leave out Trotsky from rehabilitation can no more stop the march of truth in 1987 than when Stalin used a similar technicality back in 1936.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ross Dowson".

Ross Dowson

Ross Dowson, #2321# 1809
40 Homewood Ave.,
Toronto, M4Y 2K2
October 17, 1987 1987?

Marilyn Vogt-Downey
c/o Bulletin IDOM
P.O. Box 1317,
New York N.Y. 10009 , U.S.A.

Dear Comrades;

That is a valuable article, New Developments in the USSR, that you published in the October 1987 issue. But I am including a copy of an article by an Andrew Wilson that appeared in the October 5 issue of the Toronto Globe and Mail dealing with the rehabilitation of Stalin's victims now underway in the USSR.

You will note that according to Wilson "Trotsky was never tried, but merely exiled by Stalin." whereas you write at the top of page 35 that "Trotsky and Sedov - two principal defendants tried and convicted IN ABSENTIA in the first two Moscow trials--" Are you using the term tried and convicted in absentia in a correct legal sense or as ~~term of phrase~~ ^{from Trotsky} expressing the facts that they are alleged to be the heads of the conspiracy for which Bukharin and others paid with their lives.

As you will see from the rest of the Wilson article this matter is of some considerable importance. It would appear that this has provided Gorbachev with "a convenient technicality" of leaving out Trotsky from the rehabilitation process.

Until I read Wilson's article I would have gone along with your formulation. However I immediately checked out with the resource at hand, Trotsky was handed a slip of paper to the effect that the GPU had decided on his deportation in 1928 and I came across nothing else that suggested that the Soviet courts formally sentenced him or Sedov. I sent ~~three~~ copies of the Wilson article to Bulletin IDOM, to the London and Paris Moscow Trials Committees and have written a letter to the ~~San~~ Globe and Mail editor which they have assured me they will be printing.

Would you check this matter out just as soon as possible and give me your considered opinion

with socialist greetings

Ross Dowson

*I read the letter
at 11 a.m. to
Sarah Lowell
1-212-673-1573*

Ross Dowson
1809-40 Homewood Avenue
Toronto, Ontario M4Y 2K2
tel: (416)-961-4554

October 20, 1987

Dear friend,

Our modest efforts to have a representative number of Canadians add their names to an international petition urging the present Soviet authorities to rehabilitate the victims of the Stalinist show trials is progressing well. We now have over 30 noteworthy Canadian signatories.

We have submitted the appeal to the editors of the Globe and Mail, hoping they might not only acquaint their readers with the statement, but also with a partial list of the international signatories and in particular the list of Canadian signers, which includes your name. And while the Globe has expressed an interest and may yet publish the appeal as the November 7 anniversary nears, they may of course not do so. It is with this in mind and after discussion with other signatories that I have decided to appeal to you to forward a financial contribution (sizeable if you are able, but whatever amount is possible) so that, if necessary, we will be able to purchase space and run the appeal with signatories as an ad in the Saturday, November 7 national edition of the Globe. We estimate the cost for such an ad at a minimum of \$1,500. This is, of course, a considerable amount for our modest number. But still, we'd like to see if we can raise it. What do you think?

I urge you to please respond as soon as possible, as there is only a short time till the target date.


I am also enclosing for your interest and information a copy of a letter which I personally sent to the Letters to the Editor department of the Globe and Mail and which I hope will yet be published, in response to a London Observer article that they carried on October 5 (see enclosed). It appears that, through a legal technicality, Trotsky will not be included among those to be rehabilitated. This would be rather ironic on the occasion of the anniversary of the revolution itself. For, on Stalin's own authority, "all the work of practical organization of the November 7 insurrection was conducted under the immediate leadership of the President of the Petrograd Soviet, Comrade Trotsky. It is possible to declare with certainty that the swift passing of the garrison to the side of the Soviet and the bold execution of the work of the Military Revolutionary Committee the party owes principally and first of all to Comrade Trotsky".

Trotsky's exclusion -- if the Soviet authorities decide to follow this course -- has much more significance of course than the slighting of an individual, even a central one in this historic event. It would

compromise the whole process of "openness" and undermine the entire effort to annul the alleged crimes with which Stalin smeared the Revolution's leaders and which so gravely set back the struggle for socialist democracy within the USSR and compromised the very name of socialism right across the globe. Of course, Trotsky's exclusion is bound not to go unnoticed -- nor undiscussed -- not only here in the West, but within the Soviet Union as well.

I look forward to hearing from you. Again, your prompt reply would be appreciated.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Ross Dowson', written in a cursive style.

Ross Dowson

Rewriting Soviet history

Re Gorbachev Turns Back Clock To Overrule Stalin (Oct. 5):

London Observer correspondent Andrew Wilson reports that crowning the huge anniversary celebrations of the Russian revolution will be the rehabilitation of Nikolai Bukharin and the other leaders of the revolution whom Stalin framed and executed in the 1930s for alleged anti-Soviet conspiracy.

"So momentous is the move in terms of ideology," writes Mr. Wilson, "that even the leadership could not undertake it unilaterally." Nor, it seems, will Mr. Gorbachev risk having the matter dealt with through the Supreme Soviet. That would throw open to scrutiny and debate not just the trials and sentences themselves, but the actual records and views of the accused, and the origins and record of the entire Stalin period. Instead, the Soviet leader will expedite the matter through a simple Supreme Court fiat.

As Mr. Wilson points out, this "convenient technicality" allows Mr. Gorbachev to leave out "the

most controversial of all revolutionary figures — Leon Trotsky," who, while alleged to have masterminded the entire alleged plot, had already been exiled and was therefore never charged or found guilty by any court.

Stalin himself used a similar technicality in the 1930s when he demanded that the Norwegian Government, which had granted Trotsky asylum, order his deportation — but not his extradition. The Norwegian extradition law required that the legitimacy of any accusations be examined by a Norwegian court before extradition could be granted. This is precisely the opportunity Trotsky wanted — the same demand he made to appear before a Soviet court, for which he pledged his life if found guilty.

The technicality which would today leave out Trotsky from rehabilitation can no more stop the march of truth in 1987 than when Stalin used a similar technicality back in 1936.

Ross Dowson
Toronto



Leon Trotsky An ironic omission

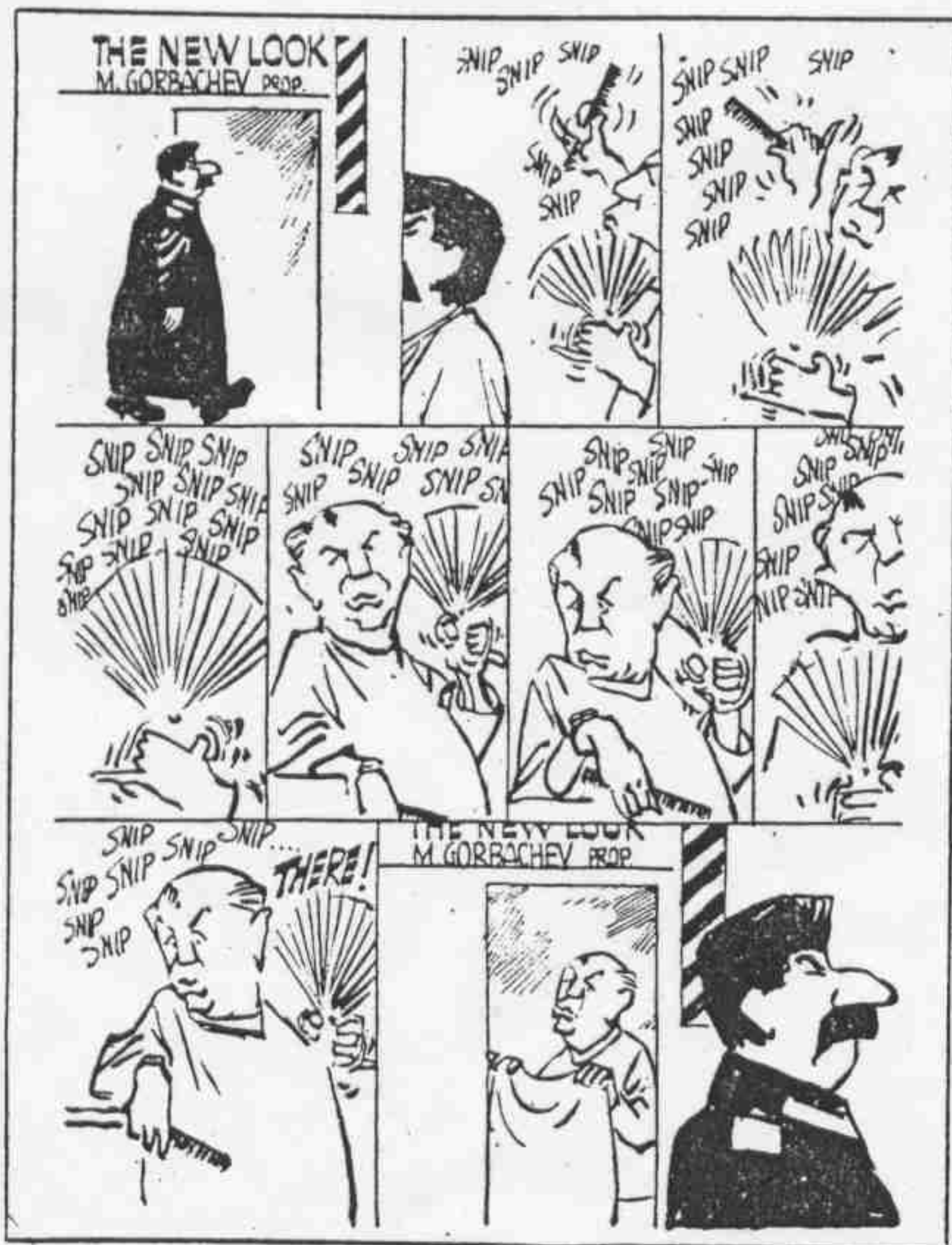
In Gorbachev Turns Back Clock To Overrule Stalin (Oct. 5), London Observer correspondent Andrew Wilson reports that Leon Trotsky, Josef Stalin's chief critic and foe during the twenties and thirties, is not among the early Bolshevik leaders victimized by Stalin who are to be rehabilitated under Mikhail Gorbachev.

The omission is particularly ironic in that the rehabilitation, as Mr. Wilson points out, is to be the crowning event of the 70th anniversary celebrations of the Russian Revolution. As none other than Stalin himself had occasion to write in an article entitled The Role of the Most Eminent Party Leaders (Pravda, No. 241): "All the work of the practical organization of the insurrection was conducted under the immediate leadership of the president of the Petrograd Soviet, Comrade Trotsky. It is possible to declare with certainty that the swift passage of the garrison to the side of the Soviet, and the bold execution of the work of the Military Revolutionary Committee, the party owes principally and first of all to Comrade Trotsky."

More ironic still, such a glaring omission is bound to raise only greater curiosity and interest in the devil, Trotsky, than if he were simply quietly included among the others.

William Boyd
Toronto

ENM NOVEMBER 4, 1987



ENM NOV 4 1987

Ross Dowson, #1809
40 Homewood Ave.,
Toronto, M4Y 2K2

October 27, 1987

Brussels, Belgium
Dear Ernest;

Enclosed you will find the latest leaflet Version of "Clear the Names of..." The important addition is Michael Cassidy who was the parliamentary leader of the Ontario NDP--the Ontario leader-- up until a few years ago. I had mailed him and all the M.P.'s some months back with no response, even a back-away on the part of Svend Robinson who has heretofore responded to our appeals. Cassidy now sits in the federal house representing an Ottawa riding. We will be mailing the NDP M.P.'s and MPP's again shortly.

Also you will note that the Globe and Mail published my letter a short while ago
Also enclosed

A fine poster advertising a play here on a little but dramatic episode on Trotsky's only visit to Canada. I took it off a wall. If possible I will try to get about 6 copies of the various Trial campaign headquarters. I am going down to the theatre to distribute the leaflet and will drop into the cast a couple of copies of the excellent article you wrote back in 1947 on Trotsky--that man and his work. They might ~~very much~~ appreciate it. The play and the actors got a rave review from the leading Globe and Mail critic. I will be going to see the play in the next week or so and will write an appreciation for publication if you see fit

The so-called free trade deal that Ottawa appears to have worked out with Washington would appear to put the cap on the long process of Canadian integration with the US. The trade union brass and the NDP M.P.'s are mounting an opposition--the Liberals and the NDP have both stated that if elected they will scrap it but the Tory government with their massive majority are going ahead with it. The Waffle in the NDP some years back posed the alternative of an independent socialist Canada but the trade union and NDP brass do not have any programmatic alternative, just a big NO. They are demanding that the Tories take it to the electorate. I will be writing an article in the coming issue of the ONDP Left Caucus bulletin.

comradely

Ross Dowson

Tuesday, October 27, 1987
40 Homewood Ave., #1809
Toronto, M4Y 2K2

Dear Angelo Rizacos
Graeme Campbell
Robert Fothergill
Richard Greenblatt

re- the play Detaining Mr. Trotsky

I am enclosing two copies of a fine article by Ernest ~~Mandel~~ which may be of interest to some of you and which evaluates his entire life., and ~~gives~~ considerable insight on his character.

Also is enclosed copies of a petition or appeal to the Soviet government requesting the rehabilitation of Trotsky along with other victims of Stalin's frame-up trials along with a letter that the Globe and Mail published recently

sincerely

Ross Dowson

International Viewpoint
2 rue Richard Lenoir
93108 Montreuil
France

Dear Comrades

I have just received Intl Viewpoint #1288- an excellent issue, particularly Mandel's article on rehabilitation of the Moscow Trials victims and the promising developments around Pierre Juquin.

I am enclosing a bank money order for \$500 Cdn or \$370 U.S. in favor of International Viewpoint from a friend of mine. While not favoring the designation of the use of funds we would hope that it can be particularly applied to enhancing the rehabilitation campaign

I am also enclosing a copy of a small leaflet ~~advertising~~ advertising the play being staged by a prominent theater group here based on Trotsky's ~~incarceration~~ incarceration in Halifax during WW2. I intend to write up a review of the play after I have seen it next week. It was enthusiastically reviewed by the two major dailies here in Toronto

with socialist greetings

Ross Dowson

Ross Dowson #1809
40 Homewood Ave.,
Toronto, M4Y2K2
October 30, 1987

The Editors of Canadian Dimension #801
44 Princess Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba
M5E 1R2

attention Jim Pringle

Dear Jim;

I am enclosing a copy of the latest list of better known supporters of our appeal Clear the Names of the Accused in the Moscow Trials. This has been circulated to the country's major political-social journals anticipating that some will reproduce it for the information of their readers.

Copies were sent to the major Toronto dailies. Upon their publication of a relevant letter from myself I asked the Globe and Mail to publish the appeal. Failing that I asked them to give me an interview with one of their reporters, without success. I then discussed with several supporters and we decided to ask our signatories to consider contributing sufficient funds with which we could buy space for its publication in a nationally circulated daily at or around the time of the Moscow celebrations at which it has been rumoured an important statement with regards to "rehabilitation" would be made.

While it is perhaps too early to conclude that this possibility has been plumbed to the depths (what with the delays in the post) it would now appear that we cannot proceed on this matter without risking the incurring of a considerable debt that would fall on the shoulders of a small number of us.

One of our supporters has written us of the circumstances confronting himself -- probably common to all of us. He feels that the value of such an ad is "very dubious," "particularly in view of the existence of so many pressing demands on my available resources." As a contributor to some of these periodicals he feels my asking the editors of two magazines, which he names, "to carry the letter with an appeal...strikes me as more sensible."

In the spirit of this suggestion I am asking you and your editorial board to do us the favor of allocating sufficient space in your next issue or a subsequent one to carry the appeal and certainly the list of Canadian signatories.

I am also enclosing a copy of an article written by one of our European signers that you may find useful

in solidarity

Ross Dowson

RB
no reply

Statement to the press released to all the services located in Ottawa November 5, 1987

An appeal calling upon the Soviet government to rehabilitate immediately all victims of the Moscow Trials of 1936-38 was submitted to Soviet Ambassador Alexey Rodionov to Canada today at the embassy's reception celebrating the 70th anniversary of the 1917 October Revolution.

The international appeal, which is drawing growing support across the globe, was submitted on behalf of the 33 noteworthy Canadians who have added their names to the appeal to date.

Among the Canadian signatories are Michael Cassidy, M.P. and former leader of the Ontario NDP; Cy Gonick, economist and editor, Canadian Dimension; G.S. Kealey, editor, Labour/Travail; Dimitri Roussopoulos, editor Our Generation; Rick Salutin, playwright, journalist, and an editor of This Magazine; two eminent lawyers, Harry Kopyto and Clayton Ruby, and the well-known feminists, Varda Burstyn and Judy Rebick.

According to Ross Dowson and Zane Boyd, who presented the appeal to the ambassador to be forwarded to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, "The signers of the appeal welcome the new period of 'glasnost' which the Soviet government under Mikhail Gorbachev has initiated. Surely, however, for there to be glasnost in the present and in future, there must be glasnost toward the past," they said.


Elaborating on the significance of this appeal, Dowson and Boyd pointed out: "This matter does not concern the Soviet people alone. The international socialist movement - in fact, the very name and cause of socialism itself - suffered enormously and still suffers the dire effects of the events of the 1930s in the USSR.

"The 70th anniversary of the Revolution is certainly a most fitting occasion for the Soviet government to undertake the rehabilitation of all victims of the trials. The accused all played leading roles in the revolution and/or were prominent figures in the early years of the Soviet government.

"It is high time to speak the truth about the past - fully, honestly, openly. The very future of socialism in the USSR and, indeed, throughout the world is at stake."

(For further information, call 416-961-4554.)

Vern + Anne

Here is a poor retyping of our press release - a good and valuable experience. Thanks for your support. I am returning your cheque which was for the ad. Total expenses with 2 return bus fares, Xerox, stamps etc around 350.00. I think we can cover it OK - Cassidy + Kealey were reception. Our good reverend apologized for not signing the appeal - pile up of work. No Khashten types appeared but probably they were in the kitchen. 

Dear Ross,

Thanks for your note. Here is \$100. to help defray the above expenses.

Vern.

CLEAR THE NAMES OF THE ACCUSED IN THE MOSCOW TRIALS

IT IS now over fifty years since the infamous Moscow Show Trials. It is astounding that at a time when the Soviet government is at pains to emphasise its concern with 'human rights' and proclaims the need for 'glasnost' — 'openness' — the accused in these trials, with a few exceptions, are still considered guilty of being paid agents of Nazism, and other crimes.

Among these men were numbered several who played outstanding roles in the Russian Revolution of 1917. The reputations of founders of the Soviet state like Zinoviev, Radek, Trotsky and Bukharin were besmirched or expunged from the history books. Today, no-one doubts that the 'confessions' at the trials — the sole basis for the prosecution — were utterly false. Seven defendants in the third trial, Krestinsky and others, have been both judicially rehabilitated and politically exonerated. So have the military leaders, Tukhachevsky and others, whose military trial in 1937 was held in secret. But the admittedly false evidence against these men was inseparable from the charges against all the other accused.

None of the accused, of course, is alive today. Many were executed immediately after their trials. Others died in prison or camps. Leon Trotsky, the chief accused in all three of the trials, was murdered in exile in 1940. However, families of some of the defendants are still living in the Soviet Union. Some had also suffered imprisonment and exile. It is worth recalling that a review of all these cases was promised by Khrushchev, but this promise was broken.

We the undersigned therefore call on the Soviet government to re-examine the cases against all these victims of the perversion of Soviet justice, as took place with Krestinsky. We are confident that all those accused in the Trials of 1936-1938 will be shown to have been innocent. They should immediately be rehabilitated, their honour restored, their families compensated and their graves marked.

CANADIAN SIGNATORIES TO DATE:

Carl Birchard, Hans Blumenfeld, John Boyd, Ruth Bullock, Varda Burstyn
Michael Cassidy, MP, Gordon Doctorow, Ross Dowson, Marv Gandall, Cy Gonick
Gerry Hunnius, G.S. Kealey, Harry Kopyto, George Martell, David McNally, Joe Meslin
Vernel Olson, Leo Panitch, Norman Penner, Jim Pringle, Judy Rebick, Satu Repo
Wayne Roberts, Lukin Robinson, Dimitri Roussopoulos, Clayton Ruby, Rick Salutin
Chris Schenk, William Spira, Donald Swartz, Jerry Szach, Jesse Vorst, Reg Whitaker

FROM A GROWING LIST OF INTERNATIONAL SIGNATORIES:

Tariq Ali/Britain/Pakistan
Perry Anderson/Britain
Sidney Bidwell, MP/Britain
Wolf Bierman/E. Germany
Robin Blackburn/Britain
Hugo Blanco/P.

Eric Heffer, MP/Britain
Rosario Ibarra, MP/Mexico
Petra Kelly, MP/W. Germany
Tom Kemp/P.

Rosalia Peredo, MP/Mexico
Gert Peters

Justin
 ...v Gandall, Cy Gonick
 ...ge Martell, David McNally, Joe Meslin
 ...man Penner, Jim Pringle, Judy Rebick, Satu Repo
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| | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Tariq Ali/Britain/Pakistan | Eric Heffer, MP/Britain | Rosalia Peredo, MP/Mexico |
| Perry Anderson/Britain | Rosario Ibarra, MP/Mexico | Gert Petersen, MP/Denmark |
| Sidney Bidwell, MP/Britain | Petra Kelly, MP/W. Germany | Raul Pont, MP/Brazil |
| Wolf Bierman/E. Germany | Tom Kemp/Britain | Michel Raptis/Greece |
| Robin Blackburn/Britain | Leo Kofler/W. Germany | Frank Ridley/Britain |
| Hugo Blanco/Peru | Lev Kopelev/USSR | J. Sabata/Czechoslovakia |
| Peter Brandt/W. Germany | Alain Krivine/France | Erik Solheim/Norway |
| Fenner Brockway/Britain | Joanne Landy/USA | Lotfallah Soliman/Egypt |
| Efraim Calvo, MP/Bexico | Ken Livingstone/Britain | S. Stojanovic/Yugoslavia |
| Vlady Chibalchich/USSR/Mexico | Peter Lonkhorst, MP/Holland | Paul Sweezy/USA |
| Noam Chomsky/USA | Michael Lowy/France/Brazil | Bala Tampoe/Sri Lanka |
| Terry Davis, MP/Britain | Eddie Loyden, MP/Britain | Peter Uhl/Czechoslovakia |
| Tamara Deutscher/Britain | Oliver MacDonald/Britain | J. Ulburghs, MP, MEP/Belgium |
| Jose-Luis Diaz-Moill, MP/Mexico | Harry Magdoff/USA | Frank Vandebroecke, MP/Belgium |
| Z. Djiudjic/Yugoslavia | Livio Maitan/Italy | Andree Van Es, MP/Holland |
| Ernst Federn/Austria | Ernest Mandel/Belgium | Charlie van Gelderen/Britain |
| Peter Fryer/Britain | Seguro Melendez/Venezuela | Marijke Van Hemeldonck, MP |
| Dan Gallin/USA | Ian Mikardo, MP Britain | MEP/Belgium |
| Adolfo Gilly/Mexico | Marguerito Montes/Mexico | Francois Vercammen/Belgium |
| Mildred Gordon, MP/Britain | Hugo Moscoso/Bolivia | Michael Warshawski/Israel |
| Reg Groves/Britain | Stan Newens, MEP/Britain | Harry Wicks/Britain |
| Virgiliao Guimaraes, MP/Brazil | Ricardo Pascoe, MP/Mexico | David Winnick, MP/Britain |
| G. Gursoy/Turkey | Brian Pearce/Britain | Jacques Yerna/Belgium |
| Jiri Hayek/Czechoslovakia | Pedro Penalosa, MP/Mexico | Hocine Zouane/Algeria |

For further information, contact Ross Dowson, 40 Homewood Avenue, #1809, Toronto M4Y 2K2
 (416)-961-4554

Ross Dowson, #1809
40 Homewood Ave
Toronto, Ont., M4Y2K2
Dec 11, 1987

Bulletin IDOM
New York, N.Y.

Dear Comrades;

Enclosed please find a postal money order for \$100 U.S.

With this sum would you renew the subscriptions going to my above address and the one going to Arthur Gray same street but Apt No.912 for the coming year.

I was going to send a letter to the editor dealing with the Ford and GM Contracts on page 8 of the December issues however I see that along with comrade Onasch I would be taking on a UAW district committeeman in Kansas City and a skilled trades maintenance worker in St Paul whose knowledge of the Canadian scene is unknown to me. I do not know why you think that it is useful in such an article to depict ~~White~~ White as one who would if he could "sell the kinds of concessions demanded by Detroit," or why you would claim that the split that White led in forming the Canadian CAW has led to a weakening of auto worker bargaining power of both sides of the (Cdn-US) border."

The CAW split ^{weakened} is far from having ~~weakened~~ autoworkers bargaining power on the Canadian side of the border. White has become a sort of cult figure for all Canadian union militants - CAW has become a mobilizing force ~~for~~ a cutting edge that the CIO was in the upsurge of the 1930s. Of course he only tipped his hat to the Windsor workers who occupied their ~~plant~~ plant when the boss decided to close it down and move south. Right now CAW has inspired through its recent autoworkers settlements a massive cross Canada struggle for the indexation of retiree pensions. Any day now we can expect CAW to really open up on the Food and Chemical workers. ~~Unknown~~ CAW has ~~replaced Steel as the chief force for independent labor political action behind the NDP in the union movement~~ replaced Steel as the

Yes you must really come to grips with the Cdn autoworkers split from the UAW and the launching of CAW

with socialist greetings

Ross Dowson